

Anyone can plant trees, but not all trees are planted successfully. Combining the right species with the right site to achieve the best growth and survival, planting at the proper time and following the proper planting process, are all vital steps in establishing a successful plantation. Species selection is the first and most critical step in establishing a successful plantation.

SPECIES SELECTION

The object behind the tree planting is to plant the species most suited to that site. Tree planting is not an easy and inexpensive operation if done properly, so you will want to plant a species that will grow well.

If you are unsure of what species to plant on your particular site, you should contact your District Forester or Soil Conservation Service office. These people can provide technical assistance in choosing the best species for your given site. Remember... the biggest mistake made in tree planting is planting the wrong species.

SITE PREPARATION

Preparation of the planting area is important for good survival and fast, early growth. Where possible, the site should be plowed and disced several times to eliminate any competing vegetation. In woodland openings where plowing and discing are not possible, the competing vegetation can be controlled with chemicals. Your District Forester can advise you on the chemicals that are labeled for this purpose and how to use these chemicals safely. *If you are unfamiliar with the use of herbicides, obtain technical assistance before using them!*



★J-P Jasper-Pulaski State Nursery, Route 1
Medaryville, IN 47957, (219) 843-4827

★V Vallonia State Nursery
Vallonia, IN 47181, (812) 358-3621



Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
402 West Washington Street
Room 296
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-232-4105

TREE PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

PLANTATION CARE

Many plantations have been lost after the first year because of a lack of follow-up weed control. Weed control for three to four years after planting is very important for the survival and growth of the trees. On highly productive sites, weeds will grow faster than the trees, and will provide much competition.

This competition can best be controlled with the use of chemicals labeled for weed control. Shallow cultivation and organic mulches are additional means of controlling this competition, but they are not as efficient as the use of chemicals. *Be sure to obtain technical assistance if you are unfamiliar with the use of herbicides.*

PROTECTION

Unless you protect your plantation from fire and domestic livestock, you cannot expect to grow a successful plantation. Insect and disease problems are not normally severe enough to cause concern. Should these become a major problem, your District Forester can provide assistance in their possible control.

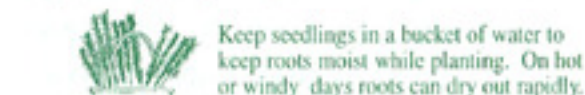
Suggested spacing	# of trees per acre	Remarks
6' x 6'	1,210	Erosion control and Christmas trees
8' x 8'	680	Best for general reforestation
10' x 10'	435	On better sites where trees are to be cultivated with mechanical equipment.
12' x 12'	300	Best for windbreaks
16' x 16'	170	Best for windbreaks

HEELING

If trees can not be planted the same day as received.



PLANTING PROCEDURES



PLANTING DEPTH

A properly planted seedling should have the root collar (zone between root and stem) even with ground level. Seedlings planted too deep, too shallow or J-rooted (tap root facing up) will not take full advantage of the seedling's capacity to produce roots and foliage. An improperly planted tree is much less likely to survive.



TOO SHALLOW

Some roots are exposed above ground level.



TOO DEEP

Much of the stem is under ground level.



J-ROOT

Roots are forced into the hole, causing root ends to be facing up.

JUST RIGHT

Root collar is even with ground level; roots running down.

